Bobby Watkins, Chief of Staff, NASA Johnson Space Center

*EDUCATION***:** Graduated from Monroe High School, Albany, Georgia in 1982 and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics from Albany State University in 1986.

*ORGANIZATIONS***:** Member of the National Society of Black Engineers, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, and National Technical Association.

*SPECIAL HONORS***:** Outstanding Leadership Medal (OLM) 2005, Performance Award 2007, 2006, 2004, 2003, Exceptional Service Medal (ESM) 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994, 1993 Group Achievement Award 1992, Special Achievement Award 1991.

*EXPERIENCE***:** After graduating from Albany State University in 1986, Mr. Watkins began his NASA career in the Mission Operation Directorate assisting with the implementation of the Digital Voice Intercom System in the Mission Control Center (MCC). In 1990, Mr. Watkins went to work in the Space Shuttle Program Office, Management Integration Office. In this assignment, he was responsible for overall computer operations, which included maintaining the operating system, network access, database software, and capacity/performance management. The computer mainframe complex and operations was valued at 10 million dollars.

In 1995, Mr. Watkins was nominated and selected for the NASA Professional Development Program. During this assignment, Mr. Watkins served as a legislative fellow for a Member of Congress from Texas. In this role, he led, managed, and drafted a United States House Resolution that would allow for a balanced NASA budget during the time of major budget cuts throughout NASA and the Federal Government. This effort included coordinating with the NASA Administrator Office, NASA Headquarter Legislative Affairs, as well as soliciting support from other Members of Congress and negotiating with the Congressional Staffers of the Science Committee for support of this balance budget approach for NASA.

Mr. Watkins served as the Shuttle Program Laptop Computer Project Manager. During this assignment, he was responsible for the hardware and software required for space flight computer hardware system configurations used by Astronauts onboard the Space Shuttle. Mr. Watkins was the focal point for defining the requirements, technical budgeting management, scheduling, and configuration control for the existing Laptop resources and future laptop development activities.

Mr. Watkins served as the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) of the United Space Alliance (USA) Flight Crew Equipment (FCE) element. In this position, he managed daily operations of the FCE Office in the test and checkout of a wide range of space flight systems. This element included EMU's, Crew Escape Equipment, Crew food, Crew clothing, cameras, laptop computers, etc. he led, managed, and directed NASA & contractor personnel with over 150 people with varied experience levels and technical backgrounds. In this position, he was responsible for managing approximately a $35 million dollar contract which included interfacing with technical and senior management personnel, providing contractor direction/management and evaluation, scheduling of product delivery, problem assessment and budgetary estimation.

In October 2001, Mr. Watkins began serving at NASA-HQ as the Space Shuttle Orbiter Element technical liaison from the Johnson Space Center, Space Shuttle Vehicle Engineering Office (SSVEO). He was responsible for technical and management integration support to NASA-HQ at Flight Readiness Reviews and Launch events, Orbiter Rollout Reviews, HQ Action Center

mission support. He created/delivered a variety of key HQ products, such as the Congressional Reports on Space Shuttle Upgrades/Shuttle Operations, and OMB responses.

In the fall of 2002, Mr. Watkins was selected to serve as the Manager of the Space Shuttle Planning and Evaluation Office reporting to the Office of the International Space Station and Space Shuttle Programs, Office of Space Flight (OSF). He was responsible for executive leadership, overall direction, and effective accomplishment of all Space Shuttle Program activities at NASA-HQ. In this job, he directed efforts to ensure that the Space Shuttle Upgrades and Space Shuttle project element operations, planning, and facilities requirements are consistent with Space Shuttle Program requirements and Agency commitments.

While at NASA-HQ, Mr. Watkins was also selected to serve as the Assistant Associate Administrator for Enterprise Operations of the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate. He serves as the principle advisor to the Associate Administrator on policy and management, and provides support in coordinating tasks and activities that are necessary for making programmatic and business management decisions.

In the summer of 2005, Mr. Watkins relocated back to Johnson Space Center (JSC) and served as the JSC Chief Engineer. In this role, Mr. Watkins will help to establish, maintain, and oversee JSC engineering policies, standards, and practices. In addition, Mr. Watkins will assist with maintaining and overseeing implementation of NASA wide program and project management policies, standards, and practices for the Johnson Space Center.

In January 2007, Mr. Watkins was appointed as the JSC Chief of Staff. In this role, he is responsible for the technical and business integration activities on behalf of the Office of the Director which includes the Center Director, Deputy Center Director and the Associate Center Director for the Johnson Space Center.